

What is claimed is:

1. A document management system comprising:
 - a host computer;
 - 5 an image information processing apparatus;
 - a document management server that manages electronic document data; and
 - a network that connects said host computer, said image information processing apparatus, and said
 - 10 document management server to each other; and
 - wherein said image information processing apparatus comprises:
 - an image information reading device that reads image information;
 - 15 an output device that outputs the image information read by said image information reading device and print data output from said host computer;
 - a searching device that searches the electronic document data within said document management server for
 - 20 original electronic document data corresponding to electronic document data within the read image information; and
 - a notifying device that notifies a result of search by said searching device.
- 25 2. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein said searching device comprises a character recognition device.

3. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein said searching device comprises a watermarked information sensing device.

4. A document management system according to
5 claim 1, wherein said notifying device transmits the result of search as an electronic mail to an electronic mail address registered in said image information processing apparatus.

5. A document management system according to
10 claim 1, wherein said image information processing apparatus comprises an operating section, and said notifying device displays the result of search in said operating section.

6. A document management system according to
15 claim 1, wherein said notifying device transmits an electronic mail with a file of the corresponding original document data attached thereto to an electronic mail address registered in said image information processing apparatus.

20 7. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein the result of search includes storage location information indicative of a location where the corresponding original electronic document data is stored.

25 8. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein in a case where a plurality of original electronic document files corresponding to the

electronic document data within the output image information are searched out, the result of search includes correspondence information indicative of priorities assigned to the plurality of original
5 electronic document files according to degrees of correspondence.

9. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein said image information processing apparatus comprises:

10 a printing device; and

a controller operable when original electronic document data corresponding to the electronic document data within the read image information is present within said document management server, to cause said printing
15 device to print the original electronic document data.

10. A document management system according to claim 1, wherein said image information processing apparatus comprises:

a storage device; and

20 a controller operable when original electronic document data corresponding to the electronic document data within the read image information is present within said document management server, to provide control to store data obtained by rendering the original electronic
25 document data in said storage device.

11. A document management method for a document management system in which a host computer, an image

information processing apparatus, and a document management server which manages electronic document data are connected to each other via a network, comprising:

an image information reading step of reading image
5 information;

an output step of outputting the image information read in said image information reading step and print data output from the host computer;

a searching step of searching the electronic
10 document data within the document management server for original electronic document data corresponding to electronic document data within the read image information; and

a notifying step of notifying a user of a result of
15 search in said searching step.

12. A computer-readable program for causing a computer to execute a document management method for a document management system in which a host computer, an image information processing apparatus, and a document
20 management server which manages electronic document data are connected to each other via a network, comprising

an image information reading module for reading image information;

an output module for outputting the image
25 information read by said image information reading module and print data output from the host computer;

a searching module for searching the electronic

document data within the document management server for original electronic document data corresponding to electronic document data within the read image information; and

- 5 a notifying module for notifying a user of a result of search by said searching module.